



"Serving Those Who Served"

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www.dva.wa.gov

Vol. 7 Issue 3

Fall/Winter 2006



During the first annual conference for VSO Auxiliary members, 35 women had the opportunity to share concerns and provide key issues to discuss at future conferences.

WDVA recently hosted a two-day conference for Auxiliary members of the State's Veteran Service Organizations entitled ***Building the Veterans Community from the Inside Out.***

"We believe that the Auxiliaries have unlimited

potential to increase veterans and family member access to all the benefits for which they are eligible," said WDVA deputy director Alfie Alvarado.

During the conference, they heard from PTSD counselors, National Service Officers, representatives from the Federal

First Annual Conference for VSO Auxiliary Members Rated a Success

VA Regional Office, the VA Puget Sound Health Care System, as well as having the opportunity to network and brainstorm new ways to provide assistance to veterans.

The women who attended are already volunteering at their local post or chapter, but would like to do more.

"Auxiliary members are the touchstone to the veteran," said Kathy Nylen, National Service Officer for the Department of Washington American Legion. During a presentation on veteran benefits, Nylen described the

auxiliaries of Veteran Service Organizations as "a group of dedicated people who want to network together and help veterans and their families in their communities".

Evaluation comments from the group indicated that many of them received ideas to take back home and use in their communities. The conference also helped them understand how their individual posts and chapters can make a difference, not just locally, but statewide.

See 1st Annual Conference page 3

During the War... Women Went to Work Premiered at Capitol

Members of the Governor's Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee hosted the premier viewing of the recently completed documentary *During the War... Women Went to Work* at their September 14 meeting held in Olympia.

Bristol Productions Ltd. in conjunction with the Washington State WWII Memorial Educational Foundation and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) produced this new oral history project, which focuses on the Washington State women of the WWII generation.

"History books tell the story of the men of WWII, but often neglect telling the story of the women in the war and changes it brought to their world," said Karl Schmidt, executive director of Bristol Productions Ltd. "Women took on many new roles and found many new freedoms as part of their war efforts, because just like the men, they served wherever they were needed, whether it was as a machinist, welder, pilot, soldier, nurse, or business person."

Continued on page 8



Women of WWII pose with First Gentleman Mike Gregoire and Wally Hoffman after the premier. (L to R) Doris Gross, Mary Koman, Helen Turner, Barbara Harrison, First Mike, Virginia Little and Wally Hoffman.

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Veterans' History
Awareness Month - page 7

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Veteran Voices is published for Washington state veterans and their family members, WDVA employees and Veterans Home residents.

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Governor
Christine Gregoire

WDVA Director
John E. Lee

Public Relations & Legislative Manager
Heidi Audette

Communications Consultant 3
Colleen Gilbert

CC3/Graphic Design
Miriam Young

Call 1-877-VETS-R-US
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colleen@dva.wa.gov
(360) 725-2180 or
miriam@dva.wa.gov
(360) 725-2169
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www.dva.wa.gov/Publications.htm
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Director's Message



John E. Lee
WDVA Director

MOU Partners

We Are Making a Difference!

Two years ago, eight partners made a commitment to welcome home and to be here for Washington's returning troops, particularly our citizen soldiers, after extended deployments to war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan.

They solidified this commitment by signing a Memorandum of Understanding. (You can find the memorandum on-line at www.dva.wa.gov.)

Two years later, those original eight partners have joined with more than twenty additional partners in a formal re-commitment to the MOU by signing the Partnership for Return to Readiness / Family Activity Days. This new partnership also identifies the many individuals and organizations prepared to provide services whenever and wherever they are needed.

So how does this memorandum make a difference?

Honor our Heroes

First and foremost, it is about Washington State joining together to honor our heroes, not by words alone, but through the actions of many partners. Thousands of new veterans returning from Iraq, Afghanistan and deployments to other areas have received one-on-one help with disability claims, readjustment issues, employment services, health care enrollment and TRICARE. These partners have also come through for veterans and families needing more personal service such as emergency financial assistance or support to cope with a severe injury.

Focus on the Need

The MOU is also driven by the individual needs of each veteran. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to serving the unique needs of our citizen soldiers. So we first focus on doing what is right for the individual veteran and their family. In almost all cases, it takes more than one partner to meet those needs. That is why the memorandum has been so successful and why we can say it does make a difference. It takes the contribution of partners from every corner of our state to truly serve our returnees.

Look to the Future

Unlike many agency initiatives, the memorandum is flexible and it has grown and changed to meet the needs of returnees.

Our goal is to provide personal service to each of the 11,000 citizen soldiers who deployed as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Noble Eagle.

You can help by sharing our toll-free number or web site and encouraging all veterans to contact us. 1-800-562-2308 or www.dva.wa.gov

Family Activity Day Facts

# of Family Activity Days	# of veterans served
2005 23	2125
2006 6	456
	(through Sept. 2006)

State Department of Veterans Affairs Olympia Offices Relocated

The Olympia offices of the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) moved to 1102 Quince St SE in Olympia on Sept. 8, 2006.

The agency's Veteran Service Center – previously located at 505 E. Union, and the Central Office – previously located at 1011 Plum St., shared buildings at both locations with other state agencies.

This move brought all WDVA Olympia employees and services together under one roof.

"The efficiency improvements of this move will help staff continue to improve the service we provide to our veterans and their families," said WDVA director John E. Lee.

"The added bonus of improved communication among employees will also have a direct impact on learning new and innovative ways to do what we do – Serve Those Who Served."

The mailing addresses and toll free phone numbers will

remain the same for both groups:
WDVA Veteran Service Center
PO Box 41155
Olympia WA 98504-1155
1-800-562-2308

WDVA Central Office
PO Box 41150
Olympia WA 98504-1150
1-800-562-0132

Individual phone numbers remained the same for Central Office staff.

Veteran Service Center staff members were assigned new numbers, however, previous numbers will provide forwarding information to callers.

Updated contact information is posted on the WDVA webpage at www.dva.wa.gov



1st Annual Conference

continued from page 1

One of the issues that was prevalent during the breakout sessions involved holding future conferences to develop better communication between the organizations, to help them work as a team. Other requested topics included more in-depth training on benefits, healthcare and the need for information in rural areas, possibly having smaller conferences by regions.

Attendees were also given the opportunity to rate the issues they are most interested in, and indicate their willingness to serve on a committee with representatives from different auxiliary organizations, to begin implementing some of the ideas discussed at the conference.

The top five issues of interest identified by the group were:

- ♦ Supporting kids through deployment/military kids/family issues;
- ♦ Benefits Awareness/ Assistance/Claims issues;
- ♦ Health Benefits/Health Care/Medical System/ Wounded Iraq veterans;
- ♦ Readjustment/ Reintegration issues; and
- ♦ Homeless issues.

Operation Military Kids

One of the key presenters at the conference was Mona Johnson, MA, CPP, CDP from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

One of Johnson's many responsibilities is implementing partnerships to take care of the special needs of military kids through a Department of Defense program called "Operation Military Kids".

With 296 school districts in Washington, Johnson emphasized the need for community level involvement to reach these kids and provide the special support needed before, during and after deployment of a military parent.

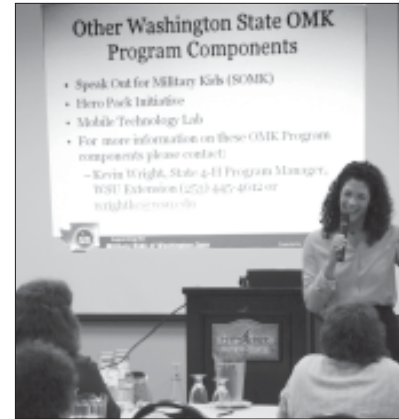
As part of the "toolkit" being developed for use by local champions of this issue, Johnson provided the group with three one-page "Issue" handouts developed through OSPI:

- ♦ Supporting Military Kids During Deployment,
- ♦ Helping Kids Cope with Stress, and
- ♦ Impact of Grief and Loss

Two additional Issue handouts addressing Resilience and Re-Union will be available soon. These handouts and other information concerning the program are online at www.k12.wa.us/OperationMilitaryKids

What Can We Do?

Often, the number of issues needing assistance from veteran and community



OSPI's Mona Johnson tells conference attendees about the Operation Military Kids Program.

organizations can be overwhelming, leaving many of those wanting to help asking "What Can We Do?" or "What Is Our Role?".

"Fortunately, our state has an abundance of very talented citizens ready to step-up and do whatever is needed to take care of our veterans and their families," said Alvarado. "No single person or organization can do it all.

"My goal is to continue bringing these advocates together, where collectively we can find new ways to address veterans' needs, as well as recognizing and sharing the successes of what is already working."

Progress on the Eastern WA State Veterans Cemetery



WDVA is working to establish a State Veterans Cemetery in Eastern Washington as part of our agency's commitment to honor veterans in their final resting place. Our state's veterans community identified the establishment of this cemetery as a top priority in the 2000 WDVA Master Plan and the cemetery is supported by Governor Gregoire, her Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee and the Veterans Legislative Coalition. This year WDVA will request the necessary funds from the Governor and the Washington State Legislature to purchase land and begin construction. Our goal is to open Washington's first State Veterans Cemetery on Veteran's Day, 2009.

Why A State Veterans Cemetery?

The number of veterans in Eastern Washington does not meet federal requirements to establish another

National Veterans Cemetery; however, WDVA understands there is an absolute need to provide these services for veterans and their families who live too far away from the state's only National Veterans Cemetery, the Tahoma National Cemetery.

What are the Costs?

The Federal VA State Cemetery Grants Program pays 100% of the cost of design, construction (including buildings) and maintenance equipment (such as tractors, mowers, etc). The estimated cost for design and construction is \$7.8 million.

Once the VA has completed the cemetery construction, our state must pay for all future costs such as ground maintenance, utilities and staffing. Many of you have been involved in the Armed Forces License Plate program and will recognize the Eastern Washington Cemetery as one of the areas the license plate funds can be used.

Where will the Cemetery be located?

To determine the location that would be most likely to receive federal funding through the State Cemetery Grants Program, WDVA conducted a feasibility study of demographic and geographic information in Eastern Washington. In addition to assessing soil

types and accessibility to major roadways, this study also looked at veteran population, including population projections over the next twenty to fifty years, and the projected number of veteran deaths over the next twenty to fifty years. Based on this information, several sites in Spokane County are being considered for the first State Veterans Cemetery. We also have data that will help us to consider sites for additional State Cemeteries in the future.

You Can Help!

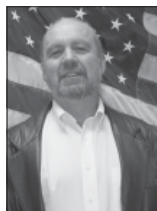
As mentioned earlier in this article, the Federal VA will pay to build this cemetery, but our State must pay all costs for staffing and maintenance. In order to do this, we need your help in promoting the Armed Forces License Plates! Funds raised by the sale and renewal of these plates will pay for the cemetery maintenance, so it is vital that we get the word out to veterans and active duty personnel throughout Washington State! If you need information or posters to help spread the word, please call 1-800-562-0132.

You can also stay connected through regular updates posted on the WDVA web page at: www.dva.wa.gov

In The Spotlight

"Serving Those Who Served" takes on new meaning when the service provider and recipient share a similar background. At the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, the number of employees who are veterans ranks high, providing a personal connection with clients not always achieved in other agencies.

In an effort to introduce these dedicated employees, WDVA will highlight a different veteran/employee each issue.



In 1972, 17 year old **Garry Hodgson** joined the Navy, serving for three years in San Diego and Midway Island. After discharge, he returned to his home state of Colorado, pursuing an undergraduate degree in Human Services and Social Work, and a Masters in Public Administration.

During his first two years of school, he was a work study for Veterans Outreach in Denver, providing services for veterans incarcerated in the Federal prison by assisting those with bad-conduct discharges receive upgrades.

Hodgson spent the next 23 years as a drug and alcohol counselor, and for 12 of those years, he owned an agency that provided domestic violence and alcohol/drug treatment services to court ordered offenders.

Hodgson's wife Carol is a native Washingtonian, so almost two years ago they left Colorado and moved to Everett, where they are in the process of remodeling a 100 year old house. The couple has three daughters and five grandchildren.

Today, WDVA is fortunate to have Hodgson working in the Veterans Incarcerated Project in Seattle as part of the King County program.



A group of Garry's friends taken on Midway Island in 1974. The sculpture behind them is of a goony bird.

VA Manager Gains Insight on King Co. VIP Success

Recently Jim McGuire, PhD, VA Program Manager of the Homelessness Prevention and Incarcerated Veterans Programs from the VA West Los Angeles Healthcare Center, visited with the WA Dept. of Veterans Affairs (WDVA), King County and the Federal VA staff involved in the Veteran's Incarcerated Project in Washington to gain some insight on why this collaboration of resources works so well.

"The Federal VA has a renewed interest in mental health services within the VA and is looking for special projects for their funding," said McGuire. "We need to know more about which projects are working."

McGuire is also the Project Director for assessing a program called CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups) for Veterans, an innovative program designed to enhance the continuum of care for homeless veterans provided by the local VA and its surrounding community service agencies. The guiding principle behind Project CHALENG is that no single agency can provide the full spectrum of services required to help homeless veterans become productive members of society. Project CHALENG enhances coordinated services by bringing the VA together with community agencies and other federal, state, and local governments who provide services to the homeless to raise awareness of homeless veterans' needs and to plan to meet those needs.

While visiting in Seattle, McGuire learned what the Seattle VA is contributing to the VIP now and what is still needed. WDVA staffers Kenny Sawyer, Garry Hodgson and Dennis Brown explained all the day-to-day operations they provide and what makes the program successful. They also took a tour of the King County jail and one of the housing options in the area, the Salvation Army William Booth Center.



Jerry Towne (left) and Joel Estey, VIP Managers explain the successes of the Veterans Incarcerated Project to Jim McGuire, PhD, VA Program Manager. (center),

King County Program Director Joel Estey told McGuire about the new 2 million dollar grant recently awarded to the project and how they hope to be expanding services to other jails in the county.

The Veteran's Incarcerated Project was established in 1996 to address the needs of veterans' incarcerated in the King County Correctional Facility, offering alternatives to jail and referral to housing, employment services, and treatment. Many of the veterans have come to the jail due to un-treated drug and alcohol issues, poverty, homelessness, or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

"We are very proud of what this project has accomplished," said Program Manager Jerry Towne. "It is a vivid model of federal, state and local government cooperation to provide transitional services to veterans in need."

The program provides transitional housing for veterans upon release from the jail, assessment and referral to the Seattle VA Medical Center for treatment and related services including drug, alcohol and mental health counseling, job referral and placement services, assistance with court appearances and early release requirements.

It has shown considerable success in lowering recidivism and reducing incarceration costs. Through a combination of early release, deferred or reduced sentences, and the treatment options available, the program achieved savings of approximately \$5 million during 2005.

Retsil Home Awarded LEED Gold Certificate

Washington's newest 240 bed long-term care facility for veterans, located at Retsil near Port Orchard, recently earned the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certification. Partners on the project included architect and engineering firm, NBBJ and General Contractor/Construction Manager, M.A. Mortenson Co.

The LEED rating system was designed to encourage and produce the development of more sustainable buildings and requires planning from the very start of the project. The result is substantial savings in the amount of energy the building uses, as well as using environmentally friendly materials for building.

The Washington Veterans Home, administered by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, opened the new facility in March, 2005.

The building design took advantage of the breezes off the water of Sinclair Inlet and the bluff location to eliminate the need for air-conditioning. Using a system of 'natural ventilation' also does away with down-time for system repairs for non-functional equipment.

Use of natural bamboo flooring creates attractive and homelike living space for veterans, and the use of green products reduces chemicals in the environment – a benefit for residents and staff.

"Almost a century has passed since the Washington Veterans Home in Retsil first opened its doors to provide care for aging veterans of the Civil War and their wives," said WDVA director John E. Lee.

"To be able to provide – 95 years later – a home-like facility for our aging veterans and be good stewards of our fiscal and environmental resources, speaks very highly for all those involved in this project."

For additional information on the criteria/credits that led to the LEED gold rating and the design and construction firms involved in the project, please visit: www.dva.wa.gov/MasterPlan/RetsilConstructionUpdates

Washington Veterans Home Highlights

Mrs. Smith Aids Soldiers Home Activity Program

Since January 2006, Georgene Smith, a WorkSource program participant has been providing recreational opportunities for the Soldiers Home residents.

Georgene works 20 hours a week assisting the Activity Therapy Dept. by conducting Trivia and Jeopardy games, writing letters, playing cards and decorating the bulletin boards.

"I really enjoy working with the seniors, they're all so sweet," Georgene said, "And the time goes so fast I don't always get to do all the things I'd like to."

It's Friday morning, however, when the residents can't wait for Georgene to arrive so they can gather to make cookies. Several regulars come to assist her with the mixing and baking, but what they really like is the social aspect of the activity.



Georgene and Doug measure the ingredients for the cookies.



Soldiers Home residents gather with Georgene Smith (standing) every Friday to make cookies for the weekend.

"We just like to get together and visit with one another," said Jim, an 83 year old retired mailman. "It's satisfying to know we are contributing something enjoyable for others in the home."

"We usually make about 100 cookies for others to enjoy with their coffee on the weekends, but the men always make them too big," said 91 year old Roselee.

Georgene gets them talking about current events or what's coming up in the way of special programs, however the conversation goes awry when they start teasing each other about one thing or another. It's a lot like a dinner table conversation where everyone in the family contributes a little something! Georgene says it can be pretty funny sometimes.

Georgene says it can be pretty funny sometimes.

According to the Activity Staff, Georgene is a wonderful person and a tremendous help in adding a touch of home to the residents' lives.

Spokane Veterans Home Celebrates 5 Years of Serving Eastern Washington Veterans



Home residents, staff, family and friends gathered in September to celebrate five years of serving Eastern Washington veterans.

The HASSIE Car Club attended and displayed several antique cars, and the Air National Guard Band of the NW Wing Span entertained by playing 50's and 60's tunes.

The delicious lunch was provided by the Dietary Department, and Administrator Kathy Magonigle cut the cake for all to enjoy.

Director John Lee was glad to attend and extended his heartfelt thanks to the staff for their dedicated service.

"I'm proud of the reputation this facility and staff have earned and I know the Spokane Veterans Home will continue to be a source of pride for the veterans and their families here in Eastern Washington," said Lee.



Street Talk

We asked the residents at the Soldiers Home... What is your most memorable SCARY Movie?

"When I was nine, I watched one about a man & woman who were trying to scare their grandfather to death. It nearly scared me to death."

--David Fox



"I used to like to watch Frankenstein by myself. It was fun to get scared."

--Roy Adee



"My buddy and I were about 14 when we went to see some scary movie I don't remember the name of, but there was one scene that was too scary to mention."

--Toby Tobeck



"I think the Texas Chainsaw Massacre #1 is the best scary movie ever made. I've seen #2 and #3, but the first one is the best."

--Paul Morrison



"I watched some as a kid but none stand out in my memory."

--Gerold Scott



Mosaic Wall Mural Dedicated at Retsil

The Veterans Home staff and residents held a brief dedication ceremony, unveiling the new mosaic wall mural visible as you drive up the entrance. The home acquired this artwork through Washington State's Art in Public Places Program. Each time a new state building is built, 1/2 of 1% of the state portion of construction costs are used to acquire artwork.

The Artist, Mike Mandel, wanted his artwork to honor the residents and his inspiration came while visiting with them and from the agency mission: "Serving Those Who Served".

WWII, Korean and Vietnam veteran Glen Morrison posing with his dog tags makes up the right side section of the design. After finding a torn flag in the Home's archives, Mandel photographed it being held up in the window, with Sinclair Inlet and Bremerton in the background. He also superimposed the 1929 arched entrance of Building 9 as a frame for the flag, featuring the early architecture into the design. The left side of the mural is a series of stars derived from a cap, that recognizes an individual who has contributed a significant portion of their lives in the service of our country.

This black and white picture does not do the Mural justice. You are all invited to visit Retsil, to see this artwork, and the entire state-of-the-art facility.



Property Tax Grant for Widows(ers) of Veterans:

Washington has a new program that may help widows(ers) of veterans pay their property taxes and special assessments. Household income, age or disability, and the spouse's veteran status at the time of his/her death determine eligibility for this program.

To date, the program has provided 24 grants totaling over \$15,000.

The Property Tax Assistance for Widows and Widowers of Veterans is a grant program, not a loan. The purpose of the program is to allow widows(ers) of qualifying veterans to remain in their homes in spite of rising property taxes. The grant will provide funds for the payment of all or a portion of the excess levies and regular property taxes due.

More information is available on the web at: www.dva.wa.gov/legislature/FS0051WidowWidowersGrantProgram1-06.pdf or by calling 360-570-5873 or 1-800-562-2308.

Veterans Innovations Program Defender's Fund Already Assisting Returnees

Funding for the newly created Defenders Fund became available on July 3 and the first check was issued on July 5, 2006, thanks to the work of the WDVA Veterans Service Center staff and our partners at the WA Military and Employment Security Departments.

In its first months, we have directly assisted returnees with an average amount of \$466. Needs have ranged from auto repairs or rental assistance to payments to keep telephones and utilities connected.

The 2006 Legislature created the Veterans Innovations Program which consists of a Competitive Grant Program and the Defender's Fund. The Competitive Grant Program is being developed by a Governor Appointed Board and will begin assisting veterans in the coming weeks.

National Guard and Reservists who served in Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom who are experiencing financial hardships may be eligible. Visit www.dva.wa.gov/Vet_Inn_Pro.htm for additional information or call 1-800-562-2308.

Pacific Alaska Region of NARA Hosts Veteran's Day Open House

The National Archives and Records Administration, Pacific Alaska Region, will be holding an Open House for Veterans and their family members on Saturday, November 11, 2006, from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

This is an opportunity to learn about Military Records in the Archives in Seattle, WA and Washington, DC.

Staff will be available to assist Veterans and their family members (next of kin) in requesting records stored at the Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, and receive the most up-to-date information on accessing them, to include using the internet to make a request for a copy of discharge (DD214) and other service records.

The National Archives Pacific Alaska Region is located at 6125 Sand Point Way NE in Seattle. For additional information, contact NARA at (206) 336-5142.

Veterans Creative Arts Festival to be Broadcast on Veterans Day

One of the premier PBS television stations in the nation has agreed to broadcast the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival stage show of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) on Veterans Day. WETA/Washington is scheduled to air the 60-minute special on Saturday, November 11.

More than 120 medal-winning veterans will participate in the Festival, which is the culmination of a year-long fine arts talent competition involving more than 2,800 veterans receiving VA health care. The Festival is presented by VA, Help Hospitalized Veterans and the American Legion Auxiliary.

The hour-long broadcast of the Creative Arts Festival, which is being held this year in Rapid City, S. D., is being co-produced by South Dakota Public Broadcasting and will be distributed nationally by the National Educational Telecommunications Association.

To find broadcast time in your area, check your local PBS station viewing schedules.

Patriots Pride Foundation Launches Web Site

Patriots Pride Foundation of Washington State is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives and futures of Washington State veterans and their families.

Their web site at patriotspridefoundation.org is now available and ready to take your tax deductible donations. Your generous donations help veterans with:

- Job Training
- Work opportunities
- Veteran owned business preparation
- Emergency bridge funds
- Prevention of chronic homelessness
- Transitional housing
- Rehabilitation programs
- Veterans Conservation Corps

Attention!

Armed Forces License Plates now available to eligible veterans/active duty/Guard & Reserves/widows(ers) at any Vehicle Licensing Office



The original cost of an Armed Forces plate(s) is \$40.00 plus any applicable licensing fees. When registration is due, you pay an additional \$30.00 to keep the Armed Forces plate(s) even if you have not had the plate(s) for a full year. \$28 from your purchase and renewal is directed to the Veterans Stewardship Account and is tax deductible.

\$28 from each sale will help support:
★ Programs/services for homeless veterans;
★ Memorials honoring veterans; and/or
★ Maintenance of a future state veterans' cemetery

1-800-562-0132

NEW ARMED FORCES LICENSE PLATES

Number of Armed Forces Plates Sold as of 9/30/06

National Guard: 240
Coast Guard: 325
Air Force: 1015
Marine Corps: 1055
Navy: 1192
Army: 1772
Total: 5599

Do You Have Yours?

A GREAT GIFT IDEA

While you cannot purchase an Armed Forces License Plate for someone else, you can honor their service by giving them a contribution towards their plate. Add names and sentiments after printing one of these certificates from the WDVA website at:

www.dva.wa.gov/specialty_military_plate.asp
Anniversary
Any Occasion
Birthday
Welcome Home
Happy Holidays



November is...

Veterans' History Awareness Month in Washington State

During the 2003 legislative session, a new section was added to chapter 73.04 of the Revised Code of Washington declaring that November of each year will be known as veteran's history awareness month; the week in November in which veterans' day occurs is designated as a time for people of this state to celebrate the contributions to the state by veterans. Educational institutions, public entities and private organizations are encouraged to designate time for appropriate activities in commemoration of the contributions of America's veterans.

Washington is home to more than 670,000 veterans and, according to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, there are 25 million living veterans in the country.

To download and print Governor Gregoire's Veterans History Awareness Month Proclamation, or to find additional information on Veteran's Day, visit the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs website at www.dva.wa.gov/events and click on Veterans Day.

2006 Veterans Day Regional Sites

Each year, the Veterans Day National Committee recognizes select Veterans Day observances throughout the country that represent fitting tributes to America's heroes.

From stirring parades and ceremonies to military exhibits and tributes to distinguished veterans, these events serve as models for other communities to follow in planning their own observances.

Each site is recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and may receive military support from the Department of Defense when available.

America is indebted to those who have sacrificed for the liberty and security of our country. The following reflect our Nation's commitment to honoring all who served.

2006 Washington Regional Site Contact Information

Auburn

Brian Petty
Veterans Day Observance
City of Auburn
910 9 th Street SE
Auburn, WA 98002
Phone: (253) 931-3043
Fax: (253) 931-4005
e-mail: bpetty@auburnwa.gov







Vancouver

Mr. Jerry Bloss
Vancouver Veterans Day Parade Committee
American Legion & Voiture Locale 99, 40 et 8

2003 N.E. 185 th Ave.
Vancouver, WA 98684
Phone: (360) 735-4975 (home: 360-254-3956)
Fax: (360) 735-5042
E-mail: jbloss@esd.wa.gov
Or
Mr. Fred Robertson
2500 N.W. 113 th St.
Vancouver, WA 98685
Phone: (360) 35-4982 (home: 360-576-9151)
Official Address:
Veterans Day Parade
P.O. Box 55
Vancouver, WA 98666-0055

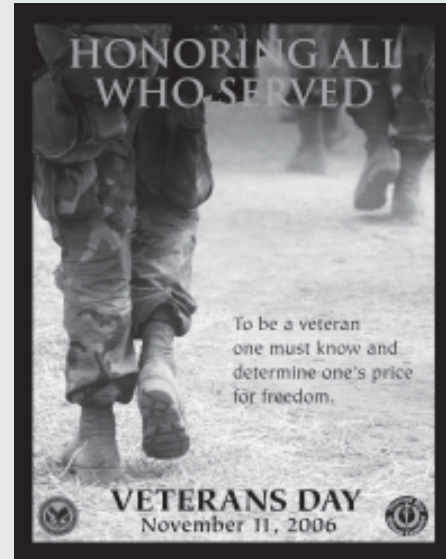
Port Angeles

Lt. Steve Mahany
Commanding Officer
U.S. Coast Guard Group
Ediz Hook Road
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: (360) 417-5842
Fax: (360) 417-5819
e-mail: steven.d.mahany@uscg.mil

America's Wars	
 <p>WORLD WAR I (1917 - 1918)</p> <p>Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....4,734,991 Battle Deaths.....53,402 Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....63,114 Non-mortal Woundings.....204,002 Living Veterans.....less than 25</p>	 <p>WORLD WAR II (1941 - 1945)</p> <p>Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....16,112,566 Battle Deaths.....291,557 Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....113,842 Non-mortal Woundings.....671,846 Living Veterans.....3,279,769</p>
 <p>KOREAN WAR (1950 - 1953)</p> <p>Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....5,720,000 Battle Deaths.....33,741 Other Deaths (in Theater).....2,833 Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....17,672 Non-mortal Woundings.....103,284 Living Veterans.....3,144,812</p>	 <p>VIETNAM WAR (1964 - 1975)</p> <p>Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....8,744,000 Battle Deaths.....47,424 Other Deaths (in Theater).....10,785 Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....32,000 Non-mortal Woundings.....153,303 Living Veterans.....7,589,714</p>
 <p>GULF WAR (1990 - 1991)</p> <p>Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....2,322,332 Battle Deaths.....147 Other Deaths (in Theater).....235 Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....1,590 Non-mortal Woundings.....467 Living Veterans.....2,015,235</p>	 <p>WAR ON TERROR (2001 - PRESENT)</p> <p>Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....1,378,014 Deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.....227,400 Battle Deaths.....2,027 Other Deaths (in Theater).....650 Non-mortal Woundings.....18,586 Living Veterans.....555,478</p>

Hats Off

**Thank You
to the more than
670,000 veterans in
Washington State
and their family
members**



Women Went To Work Continued from page 1

In 2000, Public Law Chapter 112 was passed, directing OSPI, with the assistance of the Washington State WWII Memorial Educational Foundation, to develop a curriculum of World War II oral history presentations and other materials for the purpose of preserving the history of the state's citizens and their contributions during this time period. The result of that project was a national award winning documentary *When We Were Kids... We Went To War*. During the 2005 legislative session, lawmakers included women's contributions in the World War II oral history project.

"Members of the Washington State WWII Memorial Education Foundation are to be commended for their continued advocacy and determination to see this project through," said WDVA director John Lee.

"Special thanks goes to Wally Hoffman, Acting Chairman of the Foundation and Karl Schmidt, Executive Director of Bristol Productions, who oversaw production of the documentary."

Both documentaries can be viewed at www.wwiihistoryclass.com.

Copies can be purchased by using the attached order form or can be downloaded at www.dva.wa.gov or www.wwiihistoryclass.com. Proceeds from the sale of the documentaries are tax-deductible, with checks or money orders made out to the Washington State World War II Memorial Educational Foundation (WWIIMEF).

Video Documentary Order Form

"When We Were Kids... We Went To War"

Format	Qty	Price	Subtotal
DVD	X	\$20.00	=
VHS	X	\$40.00	=
Shipping and Handling (Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery)			+ \$5.00
Total cost			=

Name:	
Address 1:	
Address 2:	
City: State:	
Zip:	
Phone:	

"During The War Women Went To Work..."

Format	Qty	Price	Subtotal
DVD	X	\$20.00	=
VHS	X	\$40.00	=
Shipping and Handling (Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery)			+ \$5.00
Total cost			=

Name:	
Address 1:	
Address 2:	
City: State:	
Zip:	
Phone:	

Print this form, fill it out and mail to:

The Washington State WWII Memorial Educational Foundation
c/o WDVA - Attn: Colleen
P.O. Box 41150
Olympia, WA 98504-1150
(360) 570-3324

Please make checks or money orders payable to:

The Washington State WWII Memorial Educational Foundation (WWIIMEF)